Message Text

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SUBJ: MEXICAN CONGRESSMEN, EDITORIALISTS, REACT SHARPLY TO COLBY STATEMENTS ON CIA ROLE

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: IN WHAT APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN A CONCERTED CAMPAIGN, MEXICO'S NATIONAL CONGRESS AND EDITORIALISTS IN PRINCIPAL NEWSPAPERS ROUNDLY CRITICIZED STATEMENTS ATTRIBUTED TO CIA DIRECTOR WILLIAM COLBY IN "U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT" INTERVIEW PUBLISHED HERE MONDAY. SENATE UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED RESOLUTION CONDEMNING "ALL FORMS OF INTERVENTION BY GOVERNMENTS AND BY AGENCIES CONNECTED WITH GOVERNMENTS AND TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS IN THE POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER NATIONS". AND IN CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES, AT LEAST ONE CONGRESSMAN (APPARENTLY A SPOKESMAN FOR LEFTWING MINORITY PARTY PARM) CALLED FOR EXPULSION OF AMBASSADOR JOVA, DESCRIBING HIM AS "BOSS OF THAT AGENCY OF IMPERIALIST PENETRATION IN MEXICO". END SUMMARY.

2. IN SENATE DEBATE, LEAD ROLE WAS GIVEN TO PRI SENATOR FROM SONORA, ALEJANDRO CARRILLO MARCOR, WHO DECLARED THAT CIA WAS NOT ONLY INVOLVED IN SPYING BUT WAS ALSO "SUBVERSIVE AGENCY WHICH INTERVENED AND INVOLVED ITSELF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF AN INDEPENDENT COUNTRY". CARRILLO

SAID THAT MEXICO AND MANY OTHER COUNTRIES WERE ALREADY PROFOUNDLY CONCERNED AT PRESIDENT FORD'S "CONFESSION" OF CIA INVOLVEMENT IN CHILEAN EVENTS. THEIR CONCERN WAS NOW INCREASED, HE SAID, BY COLBY STATEMENTS--PARTICULARLY BY HIS INTRODUCTION OF CONCEPT OF "DESTABILIZATION, THE ACT OF UNDERMINING COHESION OF A CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT WHENEVER U.S. CHIEF EXECUTIVE CONSIDERED IT TO BE IN HIS OWN COUNTRY'S INTERESTS". DESCRIBING NONINTERVENTION AND SELF-DETERMINATION AS OPPOSITE SIDES OF SAME COIN, CARRILLO ARGUED THAT MEXICO COULD NOT DEFEND SELF-DETERMINATION IF IT TOLERATED INTERVENTION.

- 3. CARRILLO CONTRASTED COLBY STATEMENTS WITH U.S. AFFIRMATIONS IN INTERNATIONAL FORUMS. "PERHAPS WITHOUT KNOWING IT," HE DECLARED, COLBY WAS "TOSSING INTO THE WASTE CAN WITH OTHER USELESS PAPERS THE CELEBRATED SPIRIT OF TLATELOLCO." HE ADDED IT WOULD BE MOST DIFFICULT NOW TO RECONCILE STATEMENTS MADE BY US REPS AT U.S. AND AT HEMISPHERE FONMIN MEETINGS WITH THOSE MADE BY CIA DIRECTOR.
- 4. IN BRIEF STATEMENT, PRIOR TO SENATE'S UNANIMOUS APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION CONDEMNING FOREIGN INTERVENTION, SENATE LEADER OLIVARES SANTANA ECHOED CARILLO REMARKS IN MILDER AND MORE GENERAL TERMS. ASKED BY NEWSMEN AFTERWARD WHAT SENATE WOULD DO TO DEAL WITH CIA ACTIVITIES IN MEXICO, OLIVARES DODGED BY SAYING IT WAS UP TO EXECUTIVE BRANCH TO TAKE MEASURES TO PROTECT MEXICAN INTERESTS.
- 5. IN CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES, MEANWHILE, PRI DEPUTY LUIS DEL TORO CALERO DECLARED THAT COLBY STATEMENTS REFLECTED AN "IMPERIALIST, COLONIALIST VIEWPOINT WHICH THREATENED THE SOVEREIGNTY OF EVERY NATION", AND REVEALED "TRUE CIA PURPOSE: TO REINFORCE CAPITALIST U.S. INTERESTS WHICH THEY SERVE". COLBY STATEMENTS SERVED AS A WARNING, HE CONTINUED, THAT ERA OF FOREIGN INTERVENTION HAD NOT ENDED, THAT, TO THE CONTRARY, NATIONAL LEADERS MUST BE ALERT TO INVESTIGATE AND UPROOT ENERGETICALLY EVERY ATTEMPT AT INTERVENTION, FROM WHATEVER SOURCE.

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6. MEXICO CITY PRESS NOV 26 AND 27 WAS FILLED WITH SIMILAR DENUNCIATIONS OF COLBY AND CIA, FREQUENTLY TYING THIS ISSUE TO MEXICO'S SUDDEN BREAK IN RELATIONS WITH CHILE. LEFTIST EXCELSIOR NOTED THAT CIA INTERVENTION IN CHILE HAD BEEN PROVEN, AND THAT MEXICO HAD BROKEN RELATIONS NOT WITH CHILEAN PEOPLE BUT WITH "REGIME CREATED THROUGH FOREIGN INTERVENTION," AND IT ADDED THAT MEXICANS HAD RIGHT TO EXPECT FURTHER PROOF, WITHIN DOMESTIC FRAMEWORK,

THAT MEXICAN GOVERNMENT HAD CHOSEN PRO-DEMOCRATIC PATH. FAR LEFT EL DIA, IN TURN, DECLARED NOV 26 "A DAY THAT WOULD BE INSCRIBED GLORIOUSLY IN MEXICAN HISTORY", A DAY ON WHICH MEXICO HAD SAID "NO" TO FOREIGN INTER-VENTION, AND IT ASSERTED A DIRECT CONNECTION BETWEEN BREAK IN RELATIONS WITH CHILE AND CONGRESSIONAL CONDEMNATION OF CIA. AND GOVERNMENT-LINING EL SOL POINTED OUT THAT PINOCHET'S FREQUENT DENIALS OF FOREIGN TIES CONTRASTED STARKLY WITH COLBY REVELATIONS.

7. COMMENT: SPURT OF REACTION TO COLBY STATEMENTS, CLEARLY ORCHESTRATED FROM INSIDE GOM INSOFAR AS CONGRESS WAS CONCERNED, WOULD HAVE BEEN DIFFICULT TO SEPARATE FROM DEEPFREEZE IN MEXICAN-CHILEAN RELATIONS IN ANY EVENT. FACT THAT THEY COINCIDED WITH ANNOUNCEMENT OF BREAK IN RELATIONS INEVITABLY REINFORCED CALLS FOR GOM TO KEEP CLOSE WATCH AGAINST "SUBVERSIVES" WITHIN ITS OWN BORDERS. WE MUST NOW WAIT AND SEE WHETHER PRES. ECHEVERRIA, HAVING ADDED FUEL TO FIRE BY BREAKING WITH CHILE, WILL SUBMIT TO PRESSURES TO TAKE SOME DEMAGOGIC ACTION TO "INSURE" MEXICO'S OWN SELF-DETERMINATION. BRANDIN

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